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517518

PROGRAM TITLE UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

ADVERTISER SUSTAINING - NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1942

DAY & DATE

TIME 11:30-12:00 A.M. CWT - BLUE

PRODUCTION NOTES

CAST CHARACTERS

BESS - KATHERINE CARD

MARY - LUCILE HUSTING

JIM - HARVEY HAYS

JERRY - JOHN LARKIN

CAST

SOUND

REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Announcer

Production Director

Agency Producer or Announcer

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UNION CAM & FOREST RANGERS

SUBSTANTIAL - NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1943

11:50-12:00 A.M. CWT - BLUE

PRODUCTION NOTES

CAPT

MISS - KATHERINE GARD

MARY - LUCILLE HUSTING

JOHN - HARVEY HAYS

JERRY - JOHN LARKIN

REMARKS

REMARKS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/15/01 BY 60322 UCBAW/STP

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!
2. MUSIC: THEME
3. ANNOUNCER: Greetings! Holiday greetings from the farthest outposts of the
4. National Forest system. From the White Mountain National
5. Forest in New Hampshire and Maine where turkey and apple cider
6. grace the festive table. From the Chugach National Forest in
7. Alaska where two Christmas Days are celebrated, one by the
8. Americans, the other, a week later, by the people of Russian
9. extraction. Greetings too, from the Cleveland National Forest
10. in California, only five miles north of the Mexican border,
11. where Indians and whites join together in a festival of
12. thanksgiving. And from the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto
13. Rico, where the Three Kings, representing the Three Wise Men,
14. are better known Christmas characters than our familiar Santa
15. Claus. Yes, from all these National Forests and from all of
16. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers wherever they may be, to all Farm and
17. Home listeners wherever you may be, I bring this message:
18. Merry Christmas and a Happy, Happy New Year! Now to the Pine
19. Cone National Forest at Christmas time, 1942..Well! That's
20. strange!...Bess Robbins, Ranger Jim's wife, and Mary Halloway,
21. sweetheart of Jim's assistant, Jerry Quick, are all alone
22. at the Ranger Station. And Bess is working with the Forest
23. Service radio communication set....
24. again this morning. The radio set has been turned off all
25. time but he hasn't called.

1. BESS: (FADING IN) Hello, SX 2-5-8. Hello SX 2-5-8. This is the Pine
2. Cone Ranger Station calling Forest Service field set SX
3. 2-5-8...Hello...Hello...Jim, can you hear me? Come in, Jim.
4. (CLICK)
5. RADIO CRACKLE, SUSTAIN
6. MARY: There's no answer, Mr. Robbins.
7. BESS: Oh dear! It's no use, Mary. Their set must not be on.
8. MARY: Here, let me call them a while.
9. BESS: No, I'll try again... (CLICK, RADIO CRACKLE OUT) Hello, SX
10. 2-5-8. Hello, Jim...Jim, if you can hear me, listen carefully..
11. They've found that lost man...A party of searchers found him
12. early this morning in Devil's Canyon...He's all right, Jim.
13. They found the man who was lost...You and Jerry can come on
14. back to the Station...Everything - is - all - right -, Jim.
15. Do you understand? And Jim...Jim, if you can hear me...
16. (BROKENLY) Merry Christmas, Jim. (CLICK)
17. RADIO CRACKLE, SUSTAIN IN BACKGROUND
18. MARY: Please don't worry, Mrs. Robbins.
19. BESS: I'm trying not to, Mary. But...well...we should have heard
20. from Jim or Jerry by now.
21. MARY: They were all right when they talked with you by radio yesterday
22. weren't they?
23. BESS: That was yesterday morning, Mary, and Jim said he'd call in
24. again this morning. The radio set has been turned on all the
25. time but he hasn't called.

(PHONE IN) Mary, 2-3-8. Hello 2-3-8. This is the
phone station calling. Please hold on, Mary.
2-3-8... Hello... Jim, can you hear me? Good, Mary.

(CLICK)

RADIO CHUCKLE, SUSTAIN

MARY: There's no answer, Mr. Robbins.
JERRY: Oh dear! It's no use, Mary. Their set must not be on.
MARY: Here, let me call them a while.
JERRY: No, I'll try again... (CLICK, RADIO CHUCKLE OUT) Hello, 2-
3-8. Hello, Jim. Jim, if you can hear me, listen carefully.
They've found that lost man... A party of searchers found
early this morning in Devil's Canyon... He's all right, Jim.
They found the man who was lost... You and Jerry can come
back to the station... Everything - as - all - right - Jim.
Do you understand? And Jim... Jim, if you can hear me...

(SHORTLY) Mary Christmas, Jim. (CLICK)

RADIO CHUCKLE, SUSTAIN IN BACKGROUND

MARY: Please don't worry, Mr. Robbins.
JERRY: I'm trying not to, Mary. But... well... we should have heard
from Jim or Jerry by now.
MARY: They were all right when they talked with you by radio yesterday.
They weren't they?
JERRY: That was yesterday morning, Mary, and Jim said he'd call
again this morning. The radio set has been turned on all
time but he hasn't called.

1. MARY: Maybe Mr. Robbins and Jerry are on their way back to the
2. station right now. They're planning to surprise us. That's it.
3. BESS: No, Mary. I don't believe Jim would come back unless he knew
4. that man had been found. He and Jerry always stay on a job
5. 'til it's finished. That's sort of an unwritten law in the
6. Forest Service.
7. MARY: Yes, I know...And they would pick the wildest part of the
8. forest to search in, themselves...Maybe...maybe where they are
9. now, they can't reach us with their radio. Maybe that's why
10. we haven't heard from them.
11. BESS: I'm sure they can reach us, Mary. With that automatic relay
12. station that Jim put up last summer, the smallest set on the
13. forest can get through. I had no trouble hearing Jim yesterday,
14. so I know the relay station is working all right.
15. MARY: Oh, of course. That relay station is supposed to pick up any
16. Forest Service radio signal, however small, and send it on
17. here with increased power, isn't that it? I'd forgotten...
18. Well, anyway, it's a shame all this had to happen and break
19. up our Christmas plans.
20. BESS: Yes it is, Mary. If there's any one day in the whole year that
21. Jim likes to be at home, it's Christmas. And he'd be home today,
22. I feel, if....if...
23. MARY: What is it, Mrs. Robbins?

1. BESS: Well, Mary, when you've been with a person as long as I've
 2. been with Jim, you get a sort of...well...I s'pose you'd call
 3. it a sixth sense. Time and again, I've known what Jim was
 4. thinking about when he was way off somewhere. And sometimes
 5. I can almost feel when he's in trouble. I've felt that way
 6. about Jim all morning.

7. MARY: You don't think Mr. Robbins may be hurt or that he and Jerry
 8. are in trouble and can't use their radio? Oh, no!

9. BESS: I didn't want to alarm you, Mary, but...I just know we'd have
 10. heard from Jim before now if everything was all right out there
 11. in the forest.

12. MARY: The searching parties ought to be out looking for them, then.

13. BESS: I've thought about that, Mary. If we don't get some word soon
 14. I think we'd better try to (FADE) to send out a searching party.

15. PAUSE:

16. FADE IN CRUNCH OF SNOWSHOES, SUSTAIN

17. JIM: Wait, Jerry...Look here. I want you to cut loose from me and
 18. go on ahead by yourself. When you get out you can send
 19. somebody back for me, see?

20. JERRY: Aw, stop that kind of talk, Jim...If this blasted fog would
 21. only lift!

22. JIM: Well, let's rest a bit, anyway. We've come a long way on these
 23. snowshoes.

24. JERRY: (WEARY) That suits me all right. (CRUNCH SOUND OUT) Here. Let
 25. me help you, Jim...All right now. Sit down...There!

1. JIM: Got to be handled just like a baby, don't it...Jerry, listen
2. to me, son...

3. JERRY: Jim, if you've got any idea I'm goin' off and leave you,
4. you're plumb crazy, that's all. We'll be all right, I tell
5. yuh. It's just that this country looks so doggonned different
6. with the snow all over it, and then there's this blamed fog.
7. That's all that's got us licked right now. Soon's I get my
8. bearings we'll be all right...How do your eyes feel, Jim?
9. That bandage loose enough?

10. JIM: I'm okay.

11. JERRY: You sure got yourself a swell dose of snow blindness, Jim.
12. But, shucks, that'll pass away in a couple of days and you'll
13. be good as new.

14. JIM: Yeah, in a couple a days. But in the meantime, Jerry, we've
15. got to get out of here, or you've got to at least.

16. JERRY: We'll see this through together, Jim...Good gravy, why
17. couldn't it've been me that got snow blind. You'd have had me
18. clear out of this country by now, I bet. I guess I'm something
19. all right, getting lost this way.

20. JIM: No, Jerry. I reckon I'm the tenderfoot this trip. Fallin' off
21. that little ledge like a clumsy greenhorn. Bustin' my snow
22. goggles...and bustin' the radio set to boot. It wouldn't a
23. been so bad messin' up my eyes if only I hadn't busted that
24. radio.

25. JERRY: Forget it, Jim. We'll be okay.

1. JIM: Lettin' you lead me along like a puppy dog that can't even
2. walk straight. Yeah, I reckon I'm the tenderfoot around here
3. all right.

4. JERRY: Skip it, Jim...Gee, I wonder what Mary and Mrs. Robbins are
5. doin' right now? We sure messed up their Christmas, I'm
6. thinking.

7. JIM: Bess's probably got somebody out searchin' for us by now.
8. That's a good joke, Jerry. We come out here tryin' to find
9. poor devil that's lost and we end up with folks havin' to
10. hunt for us.

11. JERRY: I'm sorry, Jim. If this fog hadn't settled in here...

12. JIM: No, Jerry. You've got no cause to be sorry about anything.
13. You're doin' a swell job, man...It's just that...well...
14. Christmas is one time I like to be home. An' I keep thinkin'
15. about Bess and what a shabby Christmas I've given her and...

16. JERRY: Sure. I understand, Jim...Golly, I bet if it'd been me instad
17. of you, why...I'd be stark, raving mad by now. You're the
18. fellow that's got the patience, Jim.

19. JIM: I never thought it'd take the sun and snow so little time to
20. put the blinders on a feller. And I'm an old hand at this too.
21. JERRY: It was a powerful sun, Jim, and the glare off the snow was
22. terriffo...S'pose we forget about all that. We got to get on
23. of here.

24. JIM: This is rough country, Jerry, it seems to me. Got any idea
25. all how you're heading?

JERRY: No, Jim, except that I've tried to stay along this ridge we're on right now, hopin' to find a gap or trail or something.

JIM: Okay. That's your best bet. I reckon. Maybe the sun'll break through pretty soon and you'll be able to get your bearings.

JERRY: Now you're talking like your old self, Jim. What d'ya say? Ready to mush on again?

JIM: Yep. I'm ready. And say, Jerry...

JERRY: Yes, Jim?

JIM: Jerry, I'm sorry I let my hair down the way I did a minute ago. I was feelin' kinda bitter and it just sorta flowed over to the outside, I reckon.

JERRY: I understand, Jim. We'll be all right. You'll see.

JIM: Sure we will!...Merry Christmas, Jerry!

JERRY: Merry Christmas to you (FADE) Jim!

PAUSE:

FADE IN CRUNCH OF SNOWSHOES, SUSTAIN

JIM: Jerry?

JERRY: Yeah, Jim?

JIM: Workin' up hill again, ain't we?

JERRY: Yeah, but we're still on the ridge. We'll probably head down again soon. This sure is a long baby, this ridge.

JIM: Tired, son?

JERRY: Not bad, Jim.

JIM: I've been wonderin' if it wouldn't a been better if we stayed put back there where I had that accident yesterday. The boys woulda found us eventually.

JERRY: If we don't get out bearings pretty quick I guess we'll have bed down along here somewhere....but I've been thinking, Jim... What if those searching parties don't catch up with us? What if this fog doesn't lift? Signal smoke won't do no good, and we don't have much grub or stuff with us. What if...

JIM: Whoa there, Jerry. That'll be enough of that kind of talk... You're supposed to be the optimist around here... Say, the back of my neck feels kinda warm all of a sudden. Is that the sun?

SNOWSHOES CRUNCH OUT

JERRY: (EXCITED) Yes sir! It's the sun. It just flashed through, Jim... Now if it'll only stay out awhile...

JIM: What's around us, Jerry. Better look quick, in case the fog settles down again.

JERRY: Wait! Up ahead there, against the sky...

JIM: What is it, Jerry?.....Jerry!

JERRY: Jim, we're headed for a ridge top all right. I can see the crest from here. There's a regular boiling of mist and snow powder up there. Now and then it clears off the summit and I can see something shiny against the sky up there...Jim! It's a Cross! A shining Cross against the sky!.....I must be seein' things.

JIM: Quick, Jerry. Can you make out any mountain top to the south? Isn't there a mountain stickin' up there to the south?

JERRY: The Cross is still there, Jim. It's real, just as real as can be. Glistening and shining up there. Jim, are we..am I.. outa my head or something?

JIM: Didn't you hear me, Jerry? What's to the South? The south, man!

JERRY: Huh? To the south? Yes, there's a mountain top. Shaped sorta like a bowl turned upside down. But that Cross, Jim, it's still there. Like a dazzling light against the sky.

JIM: Mountain top shaped like a bowl turned upside down, huh? Why, of course! That's Sugar Loaf Mountain, Jerry, there to the South. We're all right. Everything's all right, now.. Do you hear, Jerry?

JERRY: Huh? I can still see that Cross up ahead of us, Jim..I must be..

JIM: Yes, Jerry. There's a cross up there. And that..that cross, as God must have willed it, is our salvation.

JERRY: Then I'm not seeing things? There is a cross up ahead there? There really is?

JIM: Let me tell you, Jerry. That cross you see is the antenna of our automatic relay station up there on top of the ridge. There's a metal upright with a cross piece, and right now, it must be covered with ice and the sun shining against it makes it glisten and sparkle like you see.

JERRY: Oh. Gee, for a minute I thought that..hey! Wait a minute. What good's that relay station going to do us, Jim? We don't have a radio, remember.

1. JIM: There's an emergency hand mike and earphones all ready for use
2. in a little weatherproof cabinet up there, Jerry..Well, it looks
3. like we'll be home for our Christmas celebration after all. A
4. little late maybe, but...

5. JERRY: It's almost like a ...like a miracle, Jim. We might've gone
6. right past it without seein' it, in the fog.

7. JIM: I was thinkin' about that, Jerry. The sun comin' out when it did
8. and the cross shining..I remember, last summer when I helped the
9. boys put up that relay station, how I felt that some day, maybe
10. it'd help save somebody's life. I never thought then that we'd
11. be the ones it'd lead home, On Christmas Day.

12. JERRY: It's beautiful, that Cross, Jim, standing there on the peak,
13. shining against the sky. I wish you could see it, Jim.

14. JIM: (SLOWLY) I can see it, Jerry. Not with my eyes, maybe, but I
15. can see a shining cross. It's inside me, within my heart..

16. MUSICAL FINALE

17. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the
18. National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation with the
19. cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of
20. Agriculture...

